

POTUS ST. LOUIS  
EPA West Lake

**Key Messages:**

- EPA is leading a focused and coordinated effort to protect public health
- Public drinking water supply is safe. Additional data obtained from offsite wells show no contamination from radiological material.
- Agree there needs to be an isolation barrier put in place as soon as possible.

**Background:**

The West Lake landfill is a Superfund site located in St. Louis, MO. The landfill was used as a disposal site for cold war era radiological byproducts. The adjacent Bridgeton landfill has a subsurface smoldering event, which basically means there are elevated temperatures and gasses without visible flame deep within the landfill. The EPA has directed the construction of an isolation barrier to keep the two sites separate. The EPA is leading federal actions at the site to protect public health.

**Talking Points:**

1. This is obviously an issue that is of concern to the residents of St. Louis.
2. The EPA staff continues its focused and coordinated efforts with state and federal partners. All data and information collected at the site indicates any radiological material remains contained within the Superfund site and that public health remains protected.
3. The community's frustration with the slow pace of activities is understandable; but, it's important to emphasize the public drinking water supply is safe. Furthermore, additional data shows no contamination from radiological material at offsite wells.
4. EPA is working to help finalize the effort to install an isolation barrier, which separates the Superfund site from the Bridgeton landfill. This work will keep the subsurface smoldering separate from the radiological material.
5. Finally, through its Superfund program EPA will make sure the responsible parties continue to take steps to protect the community immediately and in the long term.